

Washington, D.C. – Congressman André Carson released the following statement today to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the integration of our nation's Armed Services:

“Over the past couple centuries, African-American soldiers, sailors, and airmen have played a vital role in securing our homeland and protecting our citizenry. The 60th anniversary of the integration of our nation's armed services provides us all with an excellent opportunity to pay homage to those many generations of African-American patriots who made the ultimate sacrifices in defending our freedoms and safeguarding our liberties.

“Prior to the integration of the armed services, many African-American servicemen were forced to endure the unbearable hardships associated with Jim Crow and the segregationist policies of our nation's past. Despite the many obstacles and challenges they encountered, these selfless individuals put the needs and priorities of their nation above their own.

“I salute those brave individuals who had the courage to not only defend our nation in such trying and uncertain times. Our nation shall forever be indebted to these heroic individuals for their service to our country and their allegiance to defending to our democracy.”